MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 NOVEMBER 1982

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak declared in a NEW YORK TIMES interview reported by MENA that the recall of Egypt's ambassador from Israel was the least he could do after Israel's actions in Lebanon. Turning to Egyptian-Soviet relations, Mubarak said it is natural for Egypt to have diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, which has an embassy in Cairo but lacks an ambassador. The exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and the Soviet Union would not necessarily impair Egypt's relations with the United States, with which Egypt has a special relationship that cannot be abandoned, Mubarak added.

The Cairo paper ASH-SHA'B reported on 9 November that Egyptian-Soviet consultations are currently underway regarding the exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and the Soviet Union.

PLO

Fatah Decisions -- Noting that the restoration of relations with Egypt will be one of the items on the agenda of the 19 November PLO Central Council meeting in Damascus, the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' said the Fatah Central Committee recently approved such a restoration of relations and decided to appoint Fatah Central Committee member Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid as the new PLO representative in Cairo, subject to Central Council approval. According to the AL-ANBA' report, which cited Palestinian sources, the Fatah leadership also decided to suspend the membership of one of its Central Committee members because of his "noncommittal stances."

DFLP on Reagan -- Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) leaders met with the Syrian prime minister and both sides reaffirmed that President Ronald Reagan's peace plan contradicts the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, to return and to establish their own independent state, a DFLP statement broadcast by Damascus radio announced. The DFLP and Syrian leaders also stressed the importance of the Palestinian-Syrian alliance in resisting U.S. and Israeli plans, the statement added.

Lebanon

U.S. Mediators -- U.S. Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper returned to Beirut from Tel Aviv on 18 November and U.S. special envoy Philip Habib is scheduled to arrive in Beirut on 19 November, according to Voice of Lebanon and Beirut radio reports.

Security Situation -- An IDF patrol in Sidon came under fire on the morning of 19 November, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The previous day, an explosion injured five people in the Ash-Shiyah area of Beirut and two more people were injured by a handgrenade in the Al-Hamra' area, the radio said. Meanwhile, armed men continued to block roads in the Ash-Shuf hills, where "a state of caution and anxiety prevails," according to Beirut radio. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said the Phalangist Lebanese Forces have warned Druze militia to withdraw from positions around some of the Christian villages. In a statement reported by Beirut radio, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan again criticized the Israelis for making the Lebanese Army's entry into the Ash-Shuf hills impossible and he claimed that "alien hands" are attempting to stir up sedition in the area. While Ash-Shuf was quiet throughout the Israeli invasion even though local leaders disagreed strongly, the area is now simmering despite the accord among its leaders, he pointed out.

Israel

The United States has decided to increase its direct intervention in West Bank and Gaza Strip affairs, MA'ARIV reported on 19 November. Noting U.S. contacts with Arab notables in the occupied territories, MA'ARIV said the United States is trying to expand its relations with Palestinian figures who may participate in the autonomy negotiations.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi Opposition -- Deputies of Iran's Majlis issued a statement declaring that the formation of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq heralds the imminent victory of the Muslim Iraqi nation against Satan and the downfall of the Saddam Husayn regime, Tehran radio reported. According to IRNA, the Iraqi Islamic opposition Ad-Dawah Party has announced support for the new council.

Claimed Execution of Prisoners -- Following Iraqi reports that Iran has executed Iraqi POW's, IRNA announced that Iran has captured documents proving that all Iraqi military units have been instructed to execute captured members of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Iran

Relations With UAE -- During a visit to the UAE, an Iranian envoy told a news conference that the UAE is a "progressive country led by wise men who recognize the importance of Iran in the region," the Dubayy daily KHALEEJ TIMES reported.

Khomeyni on Council of Experts -- Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni stressed in a speech broadcast by Tehran radio that all should participate in the forthcoming election for the Council of Experts. Khomeyni criticized "a number of gentlemen" who have opposed establishing the council. According to IRNA, the election is scheduled for 10 December.

Afghanistan

A BAKHTAR announcement broadcast by Kabul radio admitted that a recent traffic accident in the Salang Pass tunnel caused "loss of human life" but denied Western news reports about the accident.

GCC

Kuwait has submitted "comprehensive and clear" proposals on the GCC's recently postponed security agreement, QNA reported citing the Kuwait paper AL-QABAS.

OAU

No agreement has been reached on which of the rival Chadian delegations will occupy Chad's seat at the OAU ministerial conference in Tripoli, AFP reported. The foreign minister of Hissein Habre's government in Ndjamena, Idriss Miskine, accused Libya of preparing to occupy northern Chad and said the Libyans aim to use the OAU to legalize their military interference in the country, AFP noted.

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BAKHTAR REPORTS 'LOSS OF HUMAN LIFE' IN SALANG

LD181506 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Announcement by Bakhtar information agency: The BAKHTAR information agency reports that a few days ago, as a result of a traffic accident in north Salang, loss of human life occurred. (?News) broadcast in this respect by Western news media is (?untrue) and baseless.

BABRAK KARMAL RETURNS FROM MOSCOW 18 NOVEMBER

LD181834 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, who led a high-ranking DRA delegation to Moscow to take part in the funeral of Leonid Brezhnev, returned this afternoon to Kabul.

Babrak Karmal and his entourage were welcomed at Kabul Airport by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, members of the party Central Committee, members of the Council of Ministers, members of the DRA Department of Islamic Affairs, high-ranking officers of the armed forces and senior civil servants, the charge d'affaires and members of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

FRIENDSHIP, CONSULAR TREATIES WITH GDR RATIFIED

AU131156 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 11 Nov 82 p 2

[Text] Kabul (ADN) — On Wednesday, the ratification instruments on the treaty on friendship and cooperation as well as on the consular treaty between the GDR and the Democratic Foreign Affairs in Kabul by Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and Kurt Krueger, ambassador of the GDR to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Both treaties were signed during the official friendship visit of a party and state delegation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan headed by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and head of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, in the GDR in May this year.

Shah Mohammad Dost underlined the importance of these treaties for the further development and deepening of the relations between the two parties, states and peoples.

ERSHAD RETURNS FROM 'SUCCESSFUL' NEPAL VISIT

BK121646 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1255 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Chief Martial Law Administrator (CMLA) Lt Gen H.M. Ershad returned to Dhaka at the end of his 3-day official visit to Nepal. Talking to the waiting newsmen at the Zia International airport immediately after his arrival, General Ershad described his visit as extremely successful in all respects. The CMLA was received at the airport among others by the deputy chief martial law administrators, members of his Council of Ministers, high-ranking civil and military officials and members of the diplomatic missions. He was also given a guard of honor [words indistinct] contingent drawn from three services.

PRC Visit Set for 26 Nov

BK181627 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Lt Gen H.M. Ershad, chief martial law administrator (CMLA) will go on a week-long visit to China commencing November 26.

Disclosing this to newsmen on his return from a 3-day visit to Nepal on Friday the CMLA said he was going to China on the invitation of the Government of China.

The CMLA would make an overnight stay at Hong Kong before resuming his journey to Beijing on November 27.

PRC DELEGATION ARRIVES TO REVIEW COOPERATION

BK180935 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Formal talks between Bangladesh and China to review economic, scientific and technical cooperation begin in Dhaka this morning. A five member Chinese delegation headed by Vice Minister for Forestry Dong Zhiyong arrived in Dhaka last night on a week's visit to Bangladesh.

During his stay Dong Zhiyong will review the entire gamut of economic, technical and cultural cooperation between the two countries and will sign the annual protocol. The Chinese delegation during its stay will also visit Sylhet, Sunderban, Khulna and the rice research institute at Jaidevpur.

OFFICIALS ARRESTED ON CHARGES OF CORRUPTION

BK181355 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 11 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Mr. A.K.M. Mayeedul Islam, a former minister, has been arrested in Dhaka on charges of corruption, according to official sources on Wednesday night reports BSS.

Former Deputy Minister

BK151014 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Maudud Ahmed, a former deputy prime minister, has been arrested on charges of corruption. According to official sources, he was arrested in Dhaka yesterday afternoon.

DELHI SITUATION REPORTED 'ABSOLUTELY NORMAL'

BK181624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1538 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Jagmohan has assured the people that the situation in the union territory is absolutely normal. He said any attempt to create trouble will be met sternly. Any person found throwing explosives or any other substance capable of endangering human life over the Asian games venues will be dealt with severely.

Meanwhile, the police commissioner has issued a revised order which says carrying of cameras and binoculars into the stadia has been prohibited. However, accredited photographers and those specifically authorized by the organizing committee can carry cameras and binoculars. There is a complete ban on carrying bags of any kind including vanity bags, briefcases or packets, glass, bottles, thermos flasks, transistors and helmets.

AFP Account

BK190812 Hong Kong AFP in English 0750 GMT 19 Nov 82

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 19 (AFP) -- Hours before the opening ot the ninth Asian games here this afternoon, police cordoned off a Sikh temple in central Delhi where 300 to 400 Sikh separatists planned to march at 1300 local (0730 GMT).

Sikh leaders told AFP that they were determined to go on with the procession, despite a ban last week on the assembly of more than five people in public places, carrying of arms and rumormongering in the federally administered Indian capital.

However, the striking staff of the state-owned radio and television networks in India took some of the pressure off the games organisers when they decided last night to suspend their action for a bonus and other demands. The strike would have affected the games coverage severely.

As hundreds of policemen, backed up by unspecified number of paramilitary forces, were guarding the temple routes, area Police Chief Hari Dev said he had "orders from the top" not to allow the Sikhs "to proceed either to the main stadium (the venue of the games' opening ceremony) or the prime minister's residence."

In addition the administration here has empowered the security forces manning the main stadium and other points in the city to shoot at sight anyone "throwing explosives or creating trouble during the Asian games period," an official statement said late yesterday.

The administration, when contacted did not deny the statement which appeared in local English-language daily STATESMAN, but a spokesman said he pleaded with Indian newsmen who were given the statement yesterday to change the expression "being fired at" to "be dealt with severely."

The statement read: "Any person found throwing explosives or any other substance or material capable of endangering human life or disrupting public order would expose himself to the possibility of being fired at by security personnel."

Officials confirmed another report in the English-language daily HINDUSTAN TIMES that commandos have been stationed inside the main stadium with an order to "take action" at anyone including in "any kind of violent act."

The commandos will mingle with the 75,000 spectators who will witness the games being inaugurated by President Zail Singh in the afternoon.

Meanwhile, commenting on local press reports today that a last minute accord was in the offing, Prakash Singh Majitha who will lead today's march said: "There has been no instruction to the contrary from our party high command."

Police Chief Mr Dev said that Sikh demostrators could be arrested for violating the assembly ban, but "the police today will not take any kind of action other than arresting the demonstators, but then it will depend on the Sikhs... They should not become violent.

However, a federal intelligence report said the Sikhs who had taken a hard stand yesterday climaxing in a party directive to its deputies in the Punjab assembly and in the parliament to resign, might not resort to violence. "They may take out the procession and might not resist when the police will arrest them." an official said.

Police shot dead five Sikhs in the Indian capital last month when they clashed with the police near the parliament house here. The Sikhs who dominate India's northern Punjab state which borders Pakistan, had come here to back their demands for greater autonomy and religious concessions.

Meanwhile, in a last minute bid the federal government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi sent a senior official to the Sikh holy city of Amritsar last night to persuade the Sikhs to come to a settlement. A special plane flew the official and Sikh leaders from here. There was, however, no report on the fate of the mission.

Sikh sources said that over 100 people have died in police firing and related incidents Over 45,000 Sikhs have so far courted arrest -- a traditional Indian way of protest. However, majority of them were released as a goodwill gesture by Mrs Gandhi last month.

The Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, had threatened earlier this month that thousands of its supporters would descend on New Delhi during the Asian games period to draw international attention to their autonomy demand. There are over 13 million Sikhs in India.

POLICE ARREST 150 SIKH 'MILITANTS' 19 NOV

BK191040 Hong Kong AFP in English 1033 GMT 19 Nov 82

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 19 (AFP) -- Police today arrested about 150 Sikh militants after they came out of a Sikh temple here shouting slogans in support of their demand for an autonomous Punjab, police said.

Armed policemen, aided by an unspecified number of para-military forces had cordoned off the temple, where 300 to 400 hard core Sikhs had taken shelter to take part in a schedule march today -- the opening day of the ninth Asian games here.

The militants did not resist arrest. Sikh leaders appeared relaxed and did not raise any slogans hostile to the federal government.

Observers said the leaders were asked by the leadership of the Sikh political party, Akali Dal, to maintain peace as Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's federal government officials were holding talks with party leaders in Amritsar for a settlement of the Sikh issue.

News agency reports said talks were on and a solution may come out later tonight.

Sikh leaders here showed restraint and persuaded their young followers not to break the police cordon today set up at all exit points of the temple situated in the heart of the Indian capital.

The Sikhs released hundreds of gas ballons with leaflets tied and the wind direction took the balloons towards the main stadium where Indian President Zail Singh declared the games open.

Police were still on alert here as the Sikhs plan to organize more demonstrations during the Asian games period unless a settlement is reached, a police source said.

In a separate incident police arrested 100 members of the Democratic Socialist Party. They were protesting the "wastage" incurred by the federal government on Asian games.

SIKH LEADER EMPHASIZES PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS

BK181612 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] President of Shiromani Akali Dal Sant Harchand Longowal has said that his party will not disturb the Asian games. Talking to newsmen in Amritsar today, he said that his partymen will hold peaceful demonstrations to acquaint the delegations from abroad about their demands. He also directed the Akali members of the legislative assembly and members of parliament to submit their resignations to him before the 30th of this month.

President of the Shiromani Akali Dal, Master Tara Singh group, Rachhpal Singh has also appealed to the Akali leaders not to hold any demonstration at the time of the ASIAD.

300 ARRESTED DURING ASIAD PROTEST 18 NOV

BK181304 Hong Kong AFP in English 1257 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 18 (AFP) -- About 300 people were arrested here today during a joint protest organised by various opposition parties and a non-political organisation protesting against the ninth ASIAD.

Opponents of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's government have persistently questioned the propriety of a "poor country like India" spending such a large amount of money on the games.

The ASIAD, which opens tomorrow, has so far cost some 90 million dollars.

The youth wings of Janata, which ruled India during 1977-79, the "Lok Dal" (People's Party) and the People's Union of Civil Liberties (PUCL) were the sponsors of today's protest near parliament house. There was no violence and the demonstrators were booked for violating the prohibitory orders operating during the ASIAD.

GANDHI EXPRESSES GRATITUDE FOR USSR ASSISTANCE

BK120948 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi laid the foundation stone of the 12-billion-rupees Vindhyachal superthermal power project at (Vaidhan) in Madhya Pradesh. She expressed India's gratitude for the special interest taken by the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev in extending Soviet cooperation in the development of power generation in the country. Mrs Gandhi also referred to the Soviet assistance in the production of steel and defense equipment. She expressed the hope that friendship between India and the Soviet Union will grow in strength and promote world peace.

ZIA MEETS ROMANIAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY MINISTER

BK171706 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Romanian Chemical Industry Minister Gheorghe Caranfil called on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. They discussed matters pertaining to economic cooperation between Pakistan and Romania. Federal Minister for Production Lt Gen Said Qadir, the secretary for economic affairs and the Romania ambassador to Pakistan were also present on the occasion.

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH UAE MEDIA DELEGATION

BK171700 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The seven-member media delegation of the United Arab Emirates [UAE] led by ('Abd al-Malesh) called on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening and exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. Federal information secretary and the UAE ambassador to Pakistan were also present on the occasion. The president presented a book (?Journey Through Pakistan) to every member of the delegation.

PRC AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION ARRIVES 18 NOV

BK181351 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] A nine-member high-powered Chinese agricultural delegation arrived in Karachi from Beijing this afternoon on a 9-day visit to Pakistan. It is headed by Chinese Minister for Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Lin Hujia. The leader of the delegation told newsmen at the airport that their visit would lead to further development of cooperation between Pakistan and China.

DAWN VIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER'S TEHRAN VISIT

GF161722 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 13: The foreign minister of Pakistan, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, will pay a 2-day visit to Tehran between Nov 20 and 22, in response to an invitation from his Iranian counterpart, Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, which was extended when Mr. Velayati visited Islamabad in March and April this year. The invitation was renewed a number of times since then.

Both Iran and Pakistan attach great importance to these talks. As immediate neighbours, the two countries have had indentity of interests on a number of regional and world issues. They have always had a good understanding of each other's position on regional as well as world affairs. Some of the rough patches which had appeared immediately after the revolution in Iran have been overcome. But, for obvious reasons, the viewpoints of the two countries are not identical on a number of issues.

However, the two countries have developed very strong commercial and economic relations. Iran perhaps wants a comprehensive discussion on these relations. If it is so, Pakistan would suggest further discussions at a later date with the participation of economic experts.

The talks between Sahabzada Yaqub and Mr. Velayati are expected to concentrate on political matters and bilateral and regional issues.

Sahabzada Yaqub in his 2 days' stay in Tehran is also expected to call on the president and the prime minister of Iran. He is expected to deliver to the president of Iran a message conveying sentiments of good wishes on behalf of President Ziaul Haq.

Agency adds: The foreign minister will fly to New York from Tehran to participate in the debate on the Afghan resolution in the UN Assembly.

Because of Sahabzada Yaqub's pressing engagments in the United Nations, the talks would concentrate more on political matters and other subjects, including the strengthening of economic ties, would be taken up during later contacts.

The sources said the main purpose of the coming visit was to give depth to bilateral relations. Issues like Afghanistan and the Iran-Iraq war will also be discussed and Pakistan would try to understand the Iranian thinking in this regard though no mediation in the war is contemplated.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan's visit would provide a chance to understand the Iranian thinking on the Afghan issue and share Pakistan's views with Iran. Pakistan has remained in close touch with Iran on the issue on which the perception of the two is not very different even if it is not identical. Pakistan fully appreciates Iran's deep concern for the people of Afghanistan and their forthright stand in this regard.

POLITICAL LEADER SUGGESTS SOLUTION TO IMPASSE

GF121210 Karachi DAWN in English 6 Nov 82 p 6

[Text] Pir Pagaro, president of the defunct Pakistan Muslim League [PML], yesterday reiterated his call for the formation of, what he called, a political government at the centre charged with the primary task of holding general elections in the country. That was the only way out of the present political impasse, he emphasized.

Talking informally to newsmen at his Karachi residence, he recalled that in June/July, 1980, he had sent a communication to President Gen Ziaul Haq impressing upon him the need to induct a "political government" to facilitate the process of democratic rule. "The political formula enunciated in that letter to the president remains to this day my party's basic standpoint", he maintained.

Replying to questions on the proposed roundtable conference [RTC] of political parties, Pir Sahib said he had told Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, president of the defunct JUP, [Jami'at ul-Ulema] to invite all such parties which had won seats in the provincial or national assembly in the 1970 general elections. "Personally, I have no objection to any party coming over to participate in the RTC," he said. He said he did not expect any decision to emerge from the first meeting of the RTC. He would like each party's representative to bring forth his party's policy declaration and have it circulated among the representatives of other parties for their assessment at a later stage.

To a question, he said he did not visualize any constitutional role for the army other than remaining on guard at the borders.

"There is no substitute for a democratic, parliamentary system", he told another questioner, adding that this system had not been allowed to work in the past.

Though his party was opposed to elections being held on a non-party basis, Pir Sahib said if there was no other alternative "we will take part in it under protest." The principle of proportional representation "is unacceptable to us", he said in the same context.

Pir Pagaro agreed with Mr Abdul Hafeez Przada that the 1973 Constitution was no longer valid. He said he had already pointed out that the said Constitution had been placed on a library shelf. That was why he had been demanding that elections be held "according to, and not under" the 1973 Constitution, he affirmed, saying that the constitutional position of the National Assembly, Senate, the federation and the centre should be retained.

Pir Pagaro's attention was drawn to the latest statement of President Ziaul Haq, apportioning responsibility to the political parties for the twice postponement of nationwide polls. He said the president should name the parties which had advised him to defer elections.

The PML chief was critical of the curtailmen' of the independence of judiciary, and said he had every sympathy with the lawyers in their present struggle. At the same time, he said, he would condemn any party's attempt to politicise the issue or to exploit the lawyers' case to its self-aggrandisement. He doubted whether the way justice was being dispensed was in accordance with the Islamic precepts.

Pir Pagaro told a questioner: "Even if Begum Bhutto is not that seriously ill, so what? Let her go abroad. What harm can she do to Pakistan or, for that matter, what harm have her two sons been able to do? However, if Begum Bhutto is such a dangerous person, than why keep her as a free citizen?"

PAPER EXAMINES 'TRIBAL POLITICS' IN BALUCHISTAN

GF161630 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 8 Nov 82 p 9

[Quetta correspondent Aziz Bhatti article: "Why There Is No Cabinet in Baluchistan"]

[Excerpts] Traditional tribal politics are bifurcating. Well-known political leaders who are not tribal leaders are beginning to feel that, whatever their political stature, they cannot, so to speak, reach the level of the "turban" of the tribal leaders. Therefore, they feel that, instead of hanging around them, it would be of greater advantage to "set up house" themselves. On the other hand, the tribal leaders are realizing that they cannot hold their social or tribal sway in isolation and efforts are being made to bridge the gap.

The present state of affairs is that those political leaders and workers who are setting up fronts against the authority of the tribal leaders have begun calling themselves "socialists" out of sheer necessity, habit, or as an expedient or a fad. This causes a conflict in the mind of the common man as to with whom he should side.

The people of Baluchistan want economic prosperity but they don't want to obtain economic benefits in this manner -- the way a feudal landlord bestows remuneration or charity on his serfs. They want to gain economic benefits for participating in the country's economic progress and profit. This is the pivotal question in the context of which "the problems of Baluchistan" are discussed everyday. Instead of solving this problem , the authorities try to satisfy their "serfs" in many ways and to keep them happy, with the result that no concrete solution is achieved.

It is fallacious to say there is no cabinet in Baluchistan because there are many different tribes and if the members of one tribe are not included, then the leader of that tribe or the tribesmen will be antagonized.

In other provinces also, such hierarchies exist with "headmen" and 'elders.' Besides, provincial cabinets have been formed three times in the past and the question of including a particular leader or tribesman did not arise. When, in 1972, the first provincial council was formed, headed by Sardar Ataullah Mengal, the representatives of the Marri, Rind, Kurd, Raisani, Zehri, Kaktar, Tareen, Achakzai, Gachki, Naushirwani, Shahwani, Ahmadzai and Mengalzai were not included. However there was no protest. The second cabinet was formed by Jam Mir Ghulam Qadir Khan which included no minister from the Marri, Bugti, Mengal, Gachki, Nashirwani, Zehri, Tareen, Achakzai, Ahmad Zaki, Durrani, Rind and Kurd tribes. The third cabinet was formed by Sardar Mohammad Khan (Baruzai) also set up a cabinet in Baluchistan. It may be said, however, that Sardar Ataullah Mengal's cabinet was dissolved in an undemocratic and unconstitutional manner following which the defunct People's Party seized power on the basis of an "enforced" majority.

Therefore, in the event of future elections, a cabinet should be set up. One reason [for not having a cabinet in Baluchistan] seems understandable: Those who the "authorities" want to include in the cabinet do not want to be ministers while those who want to be ministers are not approved by the "authorities".

COVERAGE OF PRESIDENT ZIA'S VISIT TO MALAYSIA

For Kuala Lumpur radio, AFP and Karachi DAWN coverage of the visit to Malaysia of President Ziaul Haq from 6 to 10 November, including a banquet on 6 November, his talks with Prime Minister Mahathir, an economic agreement signed on 9 November, a press conference on 9 November and the text of the Pakistan-Malaysia communique issued on 10 November, please see the Malaysia section of the 9 November Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

BRIEFS

CULTURAL COOPERATION WITH BANGLADESH -- Pakistan and Bangladesh on 3 November exchanged the instruments of ratification in Islamabad following the bilateral cultural agreement between the two countries. The agreement provides the basis for cooperation in the field of culture, education and science and technology. It also provides exchange of scholars, students, publications, periodicals, archaeological specimens, sport teams and radio and TV programs. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 3 Nov 82 BK]

NEW ENVOY TO EGYPT -- The Government of Pakistan announced the appointment of Syed Zafarul Islam as the ambassador of Pakistan to Egypt, says a press note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 82 p 2 GF]

SRI LANKA

MINISTRY BEGINS PROBE OF SEPARATIST GROUPS

BK181403 Colombo SUN in English 15 Nov 82 p 1

[By Ranil Weerasinghe]

[Text] The Defence Ministry yesterday initiated an immediate probe on the northern separatist movement's foreign fundings and connections with religious groups.

This directive came after security forces in the north yesterday took three members of the clergy into custody for allegedly having a large stock of subversive literature in their possession.

The security teams which launched a pre-dawn raid on a house in Colombaturai, near Gurunagar, recovered literature and a number of long playing records which contained songs and speeches calling for an armed struggle.

The records which had been pressed in Canada and the United States were found in covers of records made by the late country and western singer Jim Reeves.

Intelligence teams which were questioning the three members of the clergy yesterday morning have learnt that the three "missionary" priests had been abroad on several occasions.

Defence Ministry sources told 'SUN' that steps were being taken to determine whether members of the clergy were being used to collect funds, set up youth cells and even bring in subversive literature and material from abroad. Inquiries will also be conducted to ascertain whether members of this religious body had been behind attempts to forcibly settle Tamil families on state land in the north.

Information regarding the use of certain foreign non-governmental organisations with religious connections to further the cause and siphon money to the separatist movement is also being collated.

'SUN' learns that of the large number of separatists groups functioning abroad many were only interested in making money for themselves. But there were others who were utilising the funds collected for the promotion of separatist activity.

Defence Ministry sources said that there was reason to believe that the money was also being used to purchase arms and explosives.

The use of a calibre .30 carbine by the terrorists at Chavakachcheri appears to confirm this.

The fact that they were resorting less to robberies and more to arms confrontation indicates they were well backed financially at present, they added.

Meanwhile, the army also took into custody a joint secretary of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front (TELF), Elai Vedan, and detained him at the Gurunagar Army Camp for questioning.

KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES RELIGIOUS GROUPS 18 NOV

LD181700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Excerpts] A large number of people -- members of the religious minorities from all over the country -- comprising the Armenian Church Council, Zoroastrians, Assyrians, Chaldeans and Jews, accompanied by their deputies, met this morning at the Majlis with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During this meeting, Mr (Beykhishana), Majlis representative of the Assyrian minority, presented a report to the imam of the umma' about this meeting of religious minorities. Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, addressing the religious minorities, then made some gracious comment. Broadcasting the text of the proceedings at this meeting, we end this hour's news bulletin of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. God be with you and good day.

In the name of the one and only God. Your holiness, the great leader and founder of the Islamic Republic, His Great Eminence Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, may your lofty shadow remain on earth for a long time. In paying tribute to martyrs of the path of the revolution and martyrs of the battlefronts of truth against falsehood and in offering congratulations on the great victories gained by the zealous Iranian combatants in the imposed war, it is a great honor to us all to be received in audience by this great leader.

The official religious minorities have been living in this sacred land for thousands of years and, by living with their Muslim brothers for 1,400 years, they have automatically become familiar with all the righteous humane and revolutionary regulations of Islam. Therefore, they have a firm belief in the decisive leadership of the militant clergy of Islam to achieve its popular, anticolonialism and antiarrogance goals and to safeguard the rights of the oppressed, meek and deprived people of our dear country and the oppressed and deprived people of the world. We also have tasted the bitterness of tyranny, oppression and domination of the arrogant and oppressors under different names during the 2,500 imperial years. Thus, we clearly understand the value of freedom, independence and justice offered by the Islamic Republic. A man with a broken leg knows the value of a crutch. Therefore, we believe it is a religious and national duty to endeavor and to wage jihad for the glorification of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Begin Khomeyni recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We are all united under the flag of monotheism. Iran belongs to all and monotheism is our common religion; and God and the day of resurrection is the idea shared by everybody. We have these things in common and we are one nation. It is necessary for all of us to be present on the scene when Iranian issues are concerned and we should all join forces, cooperate with each other to prevent others committing acts of tyranny under the garb of Islam or other religions, and to find a way of stopping oppression against everybody in the world. The great prophets from Adam until the last, peace be upon them, all had a mission to promote justice and monotheism among the nations. Throughout history the prophets were missioned not for preaching alone, rather for refining people's morality; they came to encourage people to do good things and to improve their behavior.

You can see that some countries of the world today are beset by leaders who claim to be Christians, Jews or Muslims. The trouble these nations are going through at the hands of these leaders. This was also true during the prophets' era: They suffered at the hands of criminals who treated them so badly, criminals who blackened the face of history with their bad behavior.

Today also, some nations are beset by leaders who blacken the face of history and embarrass the prophets in front of Almighty God, God forbid. You should know that if the prophet of Islam is summoned by God to explain the treatment given to people by some regimes which claim to be Islamic and is told to look at how these regimes are working against the interests of their countries, he will have no answer. He can only say: I preached to them but they did not listen. If every prophet is summoned by Almighty God the same way to question them about the behavior of their followers, if he is asked to look at what the United States is doing under the cloak of Christianity -- that Christian, whose entire existence was spiritual -- that Christianity, the entire basis of which has been to make the people spiritualistic. [sentence as received] Today those who claim to be Christians are treating the world worse than the infidels. There is no difference between those who do not believe in God and resurection and those leaders who claim to be Christian or Jewish. Unbelievers may even be better since they respect the world and do not tread the meek under their feet.

Today you can see how badly the regime, which claims to be Jewish although the Jews do not accept it, is treating the people and claiming to follow Moses. Still worse than this regime is the way those Christian governments are treating the people despite the spiritualism of Christ. Look at how they are treating their own nations and others. They have blackened the face of Christianity. Of course, their own faces are blackened. The same is true of others and of those who claim to be Muslims.

Nobody has suffered as much as our Muslim nation is suffering under Saddam's atrocities today. Who has suffered as much as the Christian and non-Christian nation of Lebanon under the tyranny of the Zionists? They claim to be Jewish but you can see what they are by their actions. We will not be able to stand against this continually increasing flood of blasphemy that is threatening to wash away the whole world unless all of us -- the nations united under the flag of monotheism -- come together and unite as one nation and be present on the arena. The reason behind our victory so far is that during the past 4 years we have resisted. Our combatants have fought for more than 2 years despite all the difficulties, and the nation has stood behind the combatants. These are the reasons for our victory.

You should know that the Islamic government, if it rules in accordance with its Islamic duties, has respect for all strata and official religions in Iran. The government respects all other strata just as the Muslim strata, because this is an Islamic tradition.

Today, despite all the problems, despite the economic pressure placed on our nation and government by major powers, and despite the military aggression against our nation and government by other governments, we have done much work for the needy. What has been done for the poor during the past 2 or 3 years, despite all the problems, is more than what was done during the the reign of that father and son.

I assure you that the Islamic government is a servant of all strata of the nation. It is not monopolized by this or that stratum. We have been given the mission by Islam to be like this. We are assigned and dutybound to serve all people as long as they remain faithful to the Islamic Republic and carry out their commitments to the Islamic government.

I hope that the nation, the Muslims and the non-Muslim strata which have been officially recognized in the Constitution and by Islam, will pay attention to the fact that our victory depends on a union among all of us.

Our victory, that is your victory, is possible if we all remain on the arena and solve minor discords among ourselves. There should be no discord. We must all cooperate in affairs related to the law, to the government and to the Majlis. The entire nation must stay together.

Today, the issue which is being discussed by our nation is the formation of the Council of Experts to determine the leadership. This issue should not be treated lightly by our nation. At the moment, a number of gentlemen have announced that the Council of Experts should not be formed because it will weaken the leadership. The Council of Experts will be a source of strength to the leadership. These gentlemen should not say such things. All should take part in the elections. It is a duty. Islam has enjoined this duty upon all of us. In a monotheistic country, it is the duty of all strata of the nation. If all the people do not take part, if all the people are not present upon the scene, if they do not vote for the deputies, if they do not vote for the Council of Experts, and if the deputies which are to be elected do not receive sufficient votes, this will weaken their position. All the people should be upon the scene and all should take part.

I also say this to the members of the clergy. If you refrain from participation, in the same way that the nonparticipation of the religious leaders of various sects resulted in our nation to be separated from politics, and the governments did whatever they wanted, and the governments were left to their own devices and did whatever they wanted, if in the same way the clergy, the learned and the ulema leave the scene, it will result in the repetition of the former situation. This is a duty. The Council of Experts is a duty upon all. Those wishing to become an expert and those capable of the job should register their names and the nation should vote for them.

In any case, if all of us are not upon the scene and if all of us are not determined to save this country from the evil of the wicked people; if we are not aware, even if under the present circumstances, at present, this may not have much effect; God forbid. This will affect the future state of the nation. God forbid that our nation will be afflicted with the same people who showed no mercy to the old or young.

I hope that God Almighty will enable all of us to serve this nation, to serve this country, that all of us are together and will maintain our unity against all those who are against this nation and against the interests of this nation. May God help us not to be afflicted with those governments who throughout history regarded themselves to be separate from the nation and who occupied positions of authority.

May God's peace and blessing be upon you. [end recording]

REGISTRATION FOR COUNCIL OF EXPERTS EXTENDED

LD181504 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1320 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Dear listener, the following statement was issued today by Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri:

In His exalted name. The dear compatriots hereby are notified that, considering the fact that registration for volunteers for membership of the Council of experts and the Islamic Council [as heard] will continue until the end of office hours on Saturday, 20 November. Governorates and district offices in the various constituencies will remain open between 0700 - 1400 tomorrow, 19 November, to register those volunteers who have not yet announced their nomination.

This statement should be considered a written directive to all governorates and district offices in the constituencies.

MAJLIS DEPUTIES ON IRAQ SUPREME COUNCIL

LD181142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, following the formation of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, a Majlis deputies' statement declared the formation of this council as being the precursor of the imminent victory of the Muslim Iraqi nation against the Zionist regime of Saddam.

The statement reads: At a time when Zionist suppression and dictatorship has filled the air of the holy fraternal country of Iraq -- and while, to safeguard their own interests in the Persian Gulf and Middle East, the Eastern and Western superpowers have become closer and with all their might are trying to strengthen the shaky foundations of the Zionist regime of Saddam and their other mercenaries in the region -- the news about the formation of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq is the harbinger of the imminent victory of the Muslim Iraqi nation against satan, and heralds the end of the last breaths of the disgraceful and bloodthirsty government of the infidel, Saddam.

In this statement, the Majlis deputies regard the formation of this council -- with the assistance of God and under the guidelines of clerical rule -- as a sign of the imminent death of the rule of the superpowers in the fraternal country of Iraq. They express their congratulations to the holy presence of the lord of the age -- may God hasten his glad advent -- and to his rightful heir, Imam Khomeyni, and the Muslim nation and the Muslim revolutionaries of Iraq. They express their hope that with greater cohesion, the council will be able to raise the banner of the Islamic Republic of Iraq upon that holy land.

Iraqi Party Support Cited

LD181326 Tehran IRNA in English 0925 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA -- The (?Islamic) Da'wah Party of Iraq in a statement Wednesday announced its full support for the formation of the Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI).

Referring to the victory of Islam in Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, the statement said that this victory had dealt a fatal blow on imperialism and international oppression. Therefore, it added, to compensate the blow and to hinder the establishment of a just Islamic system in Iraq, they instigated the Iraqi Ba'thist regime to fight [word indistinct] the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The statement stressed that the Islamic Da'wah Party of Iraq would not hesitate any devotion for the establishment of a divine rule in the suppressed Iraqi territory.

IRNA: DOCUMENTS PROVE IRAQIS EXECUTING POW'S

LD182312 Tehran IRNA in English 1912 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Ahvaz, 9 Nov (IRNA) -- Contrary to the claims of the Iraqi regime that Iran has been executing Iraqi POWs, documents discovered from enemy positions taken over by the Iranian forces during the latest offensive, "Operation Moharram" proved that the Ba'thist regime of Iraq has been executing Iranian POWs.

According to a document found in an enemy command position, all Iraqi military units have been given instructions to execute any member of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC), captured by the Iraqi troops. The order which is issued by Iraqi unit No. 4, in January 1981, said "apparently still some of the wounded IRGC members who are captured are given medical treatment. This is to emphasise that IRGC captives are considered war criminals and must be executed on the scene."

Such documents prove falsity of claims of the Iraqi ruler, Saddam Husayn, that the Iranian POWs are kept in good conditions. It further proves that the Iraqi Ba'thist regime has trampled upon all internationally recognized laws and regulations vis-a-vis POWs. Such crimes take place at a time when all Iraqi POWs in Iran enjoy all welfare facilities and security.

IRAQI ARTILLERY POSITIONS DESTROYED 18 NOV

LD181130 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Karbala HQ, Nov. 18, IRNA -- With the heavy fire of the artillery of the Islamic forces in Moharram operations 12 Iraqi artillery positions had been either destroyed or badly damaged, the commander of the operation's artillery unit said today.

He added that over 70 percent of the enemy's attacks were repulsed with the continuous fire of the Iranian artillery and that a great part of the Iraqi forces were scattered in the first 20 minutes of the offensive.

In the third phase of the operation, Iranian infantry entered Iraqi territory and artillery units were stationed there with the fire of which the enemy's movement on (Emareh-Ali al-Gharbi) highway, the Al-Basra-(Misan Vein) road, was disturbed, the commander said.

In addition, [words indistinct] many Iraqi tanks, individual and group bunkers and battery positions were destroyed.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,126

LD181800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,126 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. May the auspicious birthday anniversary of Imam Muhammad al-Baqir, peace be upon him, be full of blessings for the lord of the era -- may God hasten his noble advent -- his rightous deputy, Imam Khomeyni, and the Iranian Muslim and militant umma'.

With gratitude and appreciation for the personnel and the indefatigable pilots of the transport unit of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran for their uninterrupted efforts and with appreciation for their service and their role in carrying out support and supply missions, some of the events and operations on the fronts of the fight between truth and falsehood in the last 24 hours are brought to your attention.

According to received reports, at 0930 yesterday, one enemy aircraft in the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational region was hit by the fire of the air defense unit of our forces and downed.

By opening fire on enemy positions in this region, our combat units succeeded in destroying one personnel carrier and one ammunition depot of the Saddamist forces and in killing a number of them.

Exchanges of sporadic fire continued in the Musian area. In the Marivan area, the Islamic combatants opened artillery fire on enemy positions in Tutman, halted his activities and inflicted effective losses and casualties on the Iraqi military.

Exchanges of fire between our forces and the enemy continued in the Moharram operational region; they were more intense in the Zubaydat area. In the Moharram operational area, enemy helicopters approached the frontlines several times with the intention of destroying the armored equipment of the forces of Islam. However, each time before they carried out any activities they were forced to flee by our air defense units' fire. In the same area, the vigilance and fire of our forces also halted the activities of the enemy's construction units.

Residential areas of Abadan yesterday came under the heavy weapon fire of the Saddamist mercenaries, which resulted in losses and casualties.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

SIX WOUNDED IN ABADAN SHELLING 17-18 NOV

GF181756 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Ahvaz, Nov. 18 IRNA -- Six innocent people were wounded as the Iraqi criminals savagely shelled Abadan and devastated four houses and shops during Wednesday night and Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi vehicles movements on the Al-Faw-Basra route were halted by the Iranian artillery fire which also smashed one enemy's munitions loaded vehicle, three observation posts and three group bunkers beyond the Arvand River.

In these operations, 20 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded over the past 24 hours.

FIGHTING IN WESTERN FRONTS DESCRIBED

GF181802 Tehran IRNA in English 1707 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Bakhtaran, Nov. 18 IRNA — The Iraqi forces sustained considerable casualties and damages over the 24 hours preceding Thursday as their suicidal attempts, in Muslim ibn 'Aqil theatre of the western fronts, were severely crushed by the Islamic defenders.

In the other western fronts, more than 40 Iraqis were killed or wounded when the superior fire-power of the Iranian troops smashed the enemy's strongholds and war equipment.

In these battlefronts, three Iraqi munitions depots, two vehicles, one tank position, one mortar launching position and several bunkers were destroyed.

Meanwhile, five more Iraqi Muslims seeking asylum entered the Islamic Republic of Iran through the western border Thursday morning.

KHAMENE'I RECEIVES AMBASSADORS 15 NOVEMBER

LD151728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Japan this afternoon met with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

During this meeting, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Japan reported to the president on developments and progress in Iran's economic and political relations with Japan during the past few months and on the Iran-Japan petrochemical project.

Khamene'i, referring to the importance of maintaining and expanding healthy and correct economic relations, said: Concerning the Iran-Japan petrochemical project, efforts should be made so that these investments will lead to the results desired by the two countries. Recent positive developments should be expanded so that Iran and Japan can enjoy better and more expanded future relations.

The ambassador of fraternal Algeria to the Islamic Republic of Iran also met with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i this afternoon. He delivered a written message from Chadli Bendjedid, president of Algeria. During this meeting, Khamene'i expressed his pleasure at the cooperation and unanimity of views between Iran and Algeria. Concerning the nonaligned summit conference, he said: We hope the forthcoming nonaligned conference will be able to adopt a decisive position with regard to the economic, political and military invasion of the archsatan, America, against the Middle East and North Africa.

VELAYATI TALKS WITH SIERRA LEONE DELEGATION

LD112308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Nov 82

[Text] The Sierra Leone commerce minister who is visiting our country with an economic delegation this evening met Foreign Minister Velayati. According to the Central News Unit, the under secretary, economic deputy and the Foreign Ministry deputy in charge of international affairs also were present at this meeting.

During the meeting, the Sierra Leone commerce minister expressed his country's desire to expand economic relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In reply, our country's foreign affairs minister said the basic foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is the policy of "neither East nor West" and the country's policy is to expand its relations with the Third World and Islamic countries. Here, Sierra Leone is given special priority.

Velayati added: If we can find the goods we require in Third World countries, with the minimum acceptable standard, we prefer to purchase from such countries under compatable circumstances; 25 percent of our imports currently come from Third World countries: previously, only around 9 percent of our total imports were purchased from Third World countries. This increase shows the eagerness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to expand its trade links with the world oppressed.

Sierre Leone's economic delegation started the first round of talks with the Iranian petroleum minister this afternoon. During these talks, Iran's possibilities in the field of oil, expansion of relations between the two countries and possible ways to supply Sierre Leone's crude oil requirements were reviewed.

Meetings Held

GF131849 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 13, IRNA — The governors of the Central Banks of Iran and Sierra Leone announced in a meeting today the dissatisfaction of their countries towards the recent decision of the International Monetary Fund for granting loan to South Africa. They also stated that such decisions would have maleffects on the economies of the Third World countries.

The IMF has recently decided to grant a one billion dollar loan to the racist regime of South Africa.

The Iranian governor, Dr. Mohsen Nurbakhsh, also explained the economic and political policies of the Islamic Republic.

Meanwhile, the Sierra Leone's delegation also held a meeting with Iranian minister of commerce, 'Asgar-Owladi, this morning.

In another development, the delegace met and conferred with Iranian minister of industries, Mostafa Hashemi, about the expansion of relations in economic and industrial fields. Hashemi expressed the hope in the meeting that the two countries would assist each other in further utilising the wealth of the two countries, including both manpower and natural resources which have not yet been utilised. The Iranian minister continued that after the culmination of the Islamic revolution, Iran succeeded in putting into operation its factories without the assistance of foreign experts.

The Sierra Leone presidential advisor replied that with the knowledge they had about the Islamic Republic and its mission toward the Third World countries, they were willing to expand their economic relations with Iran. He added that his country was rich in gold, diamonds, timber, coffee, and cocca and that the Islamic Republic could establish commerical relations with his country for purchasing these goods. In conclusion, he said that establishing cooperation with Sierra Leone can be beneficial to both countries and be in the framework of Islamic principles and thoroughly just.

The Sierra Leone delegation arrived here Thursday Nov. 11 headed by that country's Trade Minister Kamara. The trip is aimed at exploring possibilities for the assumption of trade and economic ties with the Islamic Republic.

Oil Purchased

GF171958 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran has signed an agreement with Sierra Leone for the sale of oil to the latter. The agreement was signed at the end of 4-day talks with an economic delegation from Sierra Leone held in Iran. According to the agreement, Sierra Leone will purchase 350,000 tons of light oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran by 1983. The delegation left Tehran 2 days ago.

BARTER AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY SIGNED IN TABRIZ

LD101206 Tehran IRNA in English 0942 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Text] Tabriz, Nov. 10 IRNA -- A barter agreement between Iran and Turkey amounting to nine billion rials (101-5 million dollars) was signed in this city of East Azarbayjan Province, west of Iran.

The agreement was signed by East Azarbayjan Governor General Husayn Taheri and the chairman of the board of directors of Turkish company Orpash, Suao Goksel Tik.

According to the agreement, Turkey will supply Iran with the machinery for a cement factory and lime crushing plant in exchange for 1,000 tons of fuel oil per day.

The cement factory will be installed in Ardabil in the province with a capacity of 2,300 tons of cement a day. The factory, according to the plan, will be ready for operation in 48 months.

The lime crushing plant is to be installed in Dekhvareqan another city in the same province with a capacity of 250 tons of lime a day. The plant will go into operation in 18 months.

The construction for both plants will start after eight months.

Free Voice of Iran Report

GF121344 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 11 Nov 82

[Text] Khomeyni's regime and the Turkish military administration of Gen Kenan Evren have concluded a barter transaction agreement on oil. According to informed sources, the Tehran regime will deliver oil to Turkey and in return Turkey will take part in the construction of a cement factory in Azerbayjan.

The report said that the agreement is worth more than $100 million. The Khomeyni regime is selling oil in a barter system while it has a severe revenue deficit and shortages of foreign currency. The Khomeyni regime is selling practically every barrel of oil $2-7 less than the fixed OPEC price.

According to reports (?received) from the regime's foreign embassies, the Khomeyni regime will purchase foodgrains such as wheat and barley from Turkey and in exchange will export oil to that country.

SUCCESSES AGAINST 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' CITED

LD181822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] A report from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada -- peace be upon him -- headquarters says that in a series of coordinated operations the Islamic combatants succeeded in purging 15 km along the Bukan-Mahabad highway from the filthy presence of outlaws. In these victorious operations, the hamlet of (Aqtefeh) and the strategic hills in the area were liberated from the occupation of the counterrevolutionaries subservient to world arrogance.

Also, thanks to the efforts of Islam's mighty forces, consisting of the selfless troops of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the heroes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic, the (Banazileh) heights along the Sar Dasht-Mahabad axis today fell to the Islamic combatants.

TEHRAN TRIAL ENDS FOR MONARCHISTS 18 NOVEMBER

GF181746 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 18 (IRNA) -- Third and last trial session of eight persons, supporters of the toppled monarchy regime, was held in Tehran's military revolutionary tribunal, headed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi Rayshahri, this morning.

The eight who were arrested last April were accused of taking actions against country's security and to overthrow the Islamic Republic Government. The offenders included a former army colonel, two university professors and a woman. Two of the offenders today replied to question of Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi Rayshahri and asked for pardon. The court went into recess to come out with verdicts.

CLANDESTINE ON POSSIBLE IMPEACHMENT OF BAZARGAN

GF070914 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 6 Nov 82

[Text] According to the Voice of Iran correspondent, the regime mullahs' campaign to denigrate Bazargan continues. Informed sources say that the turbaned rulers intend to defame, ostracize and impeach this (?irreligious) friend in the manner of 'Abbas Entezam, Ebrahim Yazdi, Sadeq Qotbzadeh Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and others.

According to our correspondent, following the virulent attacks by Sheykh Sadeq Khalkhali, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Karubi and Mullah Meshkini, and their criticism of Mehdi Bazargan in the mullahs' Majlis and on other occasions, the Mullah Nateq-Nuri, the interior minister of the present regime, has now condemned the prime minister of Khomeyni's interim regime.

In the political display of Friday prayers at the former Tehran University, Mullah Nateq-Nuri said Mehdi Bazargan and Abolhasan Bani-Sadr implemented measures in the early days of the Khomeyni revolution, which enabled the merchants of Iran to take large sums of Iran's foreign exchange and put it in European banks. According to political observers, the interior minister of the mullahs, who was assigned to make such utterances, accused Bazargan of saying things at the advent of the accursed regime which inspired insecurity in and alarmed the people and traders of Iran. When Mehdi Bazargan held the portfolio of prime minister of the Khomeyni interim regime, he persistently repeated that the treasury was empty and that the economic structure of the regime was due to collapse soon.

According to Nateq-Nuri, such utterances were instrumental in the hasty and large-scale transfer of foreign exchange by Iranian traders and merchants to the major international banks. Political observers say they believe the statements of Mullah Nateq Nuri, and earlier of Sheykh Sadeq Khalkhali, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Karubi and Meshkini are a precursor to the arrest and later trial of Mehdi Bazargan, in the manner of Qotbzadeh and other secular associates of the mullahs who were dismissed and later executed. A foreign diplomat in Tehran observed that the speech of Mullah Nateq-Nuri on Friday is to prepare the groundwork for [word indistinct] and the arrest and, possibly, subsequent execution.

NVOI COMMENTARY ASSAILS SUPPRESSION OF PRESS

TA102044 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 9 Nov 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Chaotic State of the Press"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Some time ago, KEYHAN raised an important and sensitive subject, namely, soliciting the views of readers about the press. In this connection Majlis Deputy (? 'Atari) warned that both newspaper circulation and the number of newspaper readers have decreased. (?'Atari) added that the (?prestige) of the press is high when it is uncensored and when it writes the truth. The imam has said: This year is the year of law, but we are observing that no one is heeding the law.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mojtahed Shabastari said: From the political viewpoint, the press must be a mirror reflecting all the different ideas and opinions expressed within the framework of the Constitution. When I say the opinions of the people, the objective is all strata and classes of society for whom the Constitution has maintained the right of life and progress in the Islamic Republic, not a specific group or class.

People expected and expect that this opinion poll will be a good beginning for terminating the unhealthy situation our press is facing. Is it in the dignity of our Islamic Republic and our nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution that they overtly tie the tongue of truthful people committed to the revolution and break the pen of the true friends of the revolution and the sincere followers of the revolution's and imam's line?

Hojjat ol-Eslam (?Shojuni) said: We have four newspapers all of which say the same thing. Majlis Deputy (?'Atari) rightly pointed out: When you read one newspaper after the other, you do find nothing new. If in our revolutionary homeland, the Islamic Republic's Constitution -- this blood money of the best children of this land -- had been respected and its principles had not been overtly and crudely violated, today our press would not have faced such a painful and critical situation.

Principle 24 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic declares that periodicals and the press are free to express themselves except when they harm the principles of Islam or the rights of the public. Yet this explicit principle of the Constitution is overtly violated. It is amazing that this principle is violated with regard to the true forces loyal to the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Imam Khomeyni, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, head of the legislative branch; Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, head of the executive branch; and Ayatollah Musavi Ardabili, head of the judicial branch of our homeland repeatedly have recommended the need for precise and untampered implementation of the Constitution's principles. Respect for the nation's rights and freedoms, particularly respect for freedom of the press and freedom of activity of parties and organizations committed to the revolution are among instances whose strict observance repeatedly has been emphasized by all government figures of the Islamic Republic. Yet we all know that in our emancipated homeland the principles of the Constitution, particularly those pertaining to the people's rights and freedoms -- freedom of the press and freedom of activity of revolutionary political parties and organizations -- openly are being violated.

The people and the million-strong masses of our homeland's town and villages rightly are saying: Those who order the ban of newspapers which have defended the revolution and Islamic Republic of Iran with loyalty, sincerity and total consistency and have exerted all their efforts toward the timely exposure of the plots of the counterrevolution, headed by the great satan, and which by presenting constructive, creative and positive proposals endeavored to expand the revolution, cannot justify this unlawful act of theirs by any excuse and alibi.

Our homeland's ever-on-the-scene people and million-strong masses firmly demand the immediate abolition of the order banning all newspapers and periodicals that are the organs of the true revolutionary forces loyal to the Islamic Republic and the imam's line. They consider delay in this vital matter to be only in the interest of the counterrevolution and the great satan.

MAJLIS PASSES BILL ON SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET

GF181808 Tehran IRNA in English 1704 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA -- Supplementary budget bill for the current year has approved in the open session of the Majlis this morning.

The session was presided over by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and several other bills, including a bill outlining limits of private ownership, was submitted to the Majlis.

NEW 50-KW TRANSMITTER OPENED IN BUSHEHR 19 NOV

GF190754 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 19 Nov 82

[Excerpt] The powerful 50-kw radio transmitter at Bushehr officially was opened this evening by Voice and Vision of Iran Director-General Hoshemi, in the presence of the members of the supervisory council of this organization. It has now begun operations.

RECENT AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN OPERATION REPORTED

GF181424 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Confrontations between Muslim Afghan mujahidin and Soviet-Afghan forces occurred last Friday 10 km west of the town of Shindand in Farah Province in western Afghanistan. The mujahidin were able to kill, wound and capture 10 members of the Soviet and Afghan forces.

On the other hand, following the seeking of refuge of a great number of Afghan pilgrims in other countries, the Kabul government has put the Ministry of Religious Affairs under the control of the intelligence network, KHAD.

BRIEFS

COMOROS ADVISOR ARRIVES -- Tehran, Nov 18 IRNA -- The Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros president's special advisor Abrahim Abdullah Abrahim arrived here today and was received by Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi at the Mehrabad airport. Abrahim is carrying a message of his president for President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. [Excerpt] [Tehran IRNA in English 1928 GMT 18 Nov 82 LD]

SHIRAZ PROSECUTOR APPOINTED -- The state general prosecutor department of the Islamic Republic of Iran has appointed Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Zia Mir'imadi as the prosecutor of Shiraz Judicial Court. He will also continue in his position as the prosecutor of the Bandar 'Abbas Judicial Court. [Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 10 Nov 82 GF]

BAKHTARAN FRIDAY IMAM -- Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Sheykh Mohammad 'Ali Movahhedi-Kermani has been appointed as Bakhtaran new Friday imam by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [Excerpt] [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Nov 82 LD]